Claims

1. Handsfree system for use in a vehicle comprising a microphone array with at least two microphones and a signal processing means

characterized in that

the signal processing means comprises a superdirective beamformer with fixed superdirective filters.

- 2. Handsfree system according to claim 1 wherein the beamformer is a regularised superdirective beamformer using a finite regularisation parameter μ, in particular, a finite regularisation parameter μ depending on the frequency.
- 3. Handsfree system according to claim 1 or 2 wherein each superdirective filter results from an iterative design based on a predetermined maximum susceptibility.
- 4. Handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims wherein each superdirective filter is a filter in the time domain.
- 5. Handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims wherein the signal processing means further comprises at least one inverse filter, in particular, a warped inverse filter, for adjusting a microphone transfer function.
- 6. Handsfree system according to claim 5 wherein each inverse filter is an approximate inverse of a non-minimum phase filter.
- 7. Handsfree system according to claim 5 or 6 wherein each inverse filter is combined with a superdirective filter of the beamformer.
- 8. Handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims wherein the beamformer has the structure of a generalised sidelobe canceller (GSC).
- 9. Handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims wherein the beamformer is a minimum variance distortionless response (MVDR) beamformer.

- 10. Handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims wherein the microphone array comprises at least two microphones being arranged in endfire orientation with respect to a first position.
- 11. Handsfree system according to claim 12 wherein the microphone array comprises at least two microphones being arranged in endfire orientation with respect to a second position.
- 12. Handsfree system according to claim 13 wherein the at least two microphones in the first endfire orientation and the at least two microphones in the second endfire orientation have a microphone in common.
- 13. Handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims wherein the microphone array comprises at least two subarrays.
- 14. Handsfree system according to claim 15 wherein at least two subarrays have at least one microphone in common.
- 15. Handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims further comprising a frame wherein each microphone of the microphone array is arranged in a predetermined, in particular fixed, position in or on the frame.
- 16. Handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims wherein at least one microphone is a directional microphone, in particular, having a cardioid characteristic and/or being a differential microphone.
- 17. Vehicle comprising a handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims.